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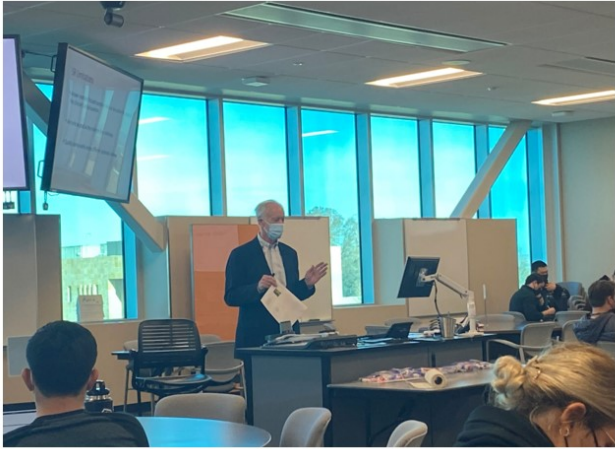
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HSLIC News - LibGuides at University of New Mexico

Remarkable Rubrics

by David Lucero on May 9th, 2023 | [o Comments](#)



Educators use rubrics to set expectations for their learners. Rubrics take much of the guesswork out of studying for learners so they can more readily succeed. Rubrics consist of checklists of skills or knowledge learners have gained that, in turn, help learners prepare for their assessments. Educators find rubrics to help score these assessments.

Our recent randomized controlled trial demonstrated that rubrics accompanied by a 5-minute instructional session were just as effective as the same 5-minute instruction followed by an added 25 minutes of instruction.¹ This could save valuable time! The context was our Quantitative Medicine Block for second-year medical students learning question formulation skills as part of their Evidence Based Practice training.

We previously had observed the dramatic improvement driven by rubrics in medical students² and also physician assistant students.³ These two previous quasi-experiments were based on earlier work involving Orthopaedic residents.⁴

Please email me at jeldredge@salud.unm.edu if you would like to learn more on using rubrics to save time in your courses or blocks.

Jon Eldredge, PhD, Professor and Evidence Based Practice Librarian

¹Eldredge JD, Schiff MA, Langsjoen JO. Effectiveness of a question-formulation rubric with second-year medical students: a randomized

controlled trial. Journal of the Medical Library Association; JMLA 2023 Jan/April; 111 (1/2): 591-8. <https://doi.org/10.5195/jmla.2023.1529>

²Eldredge JD, Schiff MA, Langsjoen JO, Jerabek RN. Question Formulation Skills Training in First-Year Medical Students. *Journal of the Medical Library Association* 2021 Jan; 109 (1): 77-83.

³Eldredge JD, Nogar C. Physician assistant student training in question formulation: a quasi-experiment. *Journal of Physician Assistant Education* 2022 Mar; 33 (1): 47-50. PMID: 35170558

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